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BARNARD CASTLE URBAN DISTRICT

COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year

1972.

A. S. M. WILSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

BARNARD CASTLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
Woodleigh,
Barnard Castle.
DL12 8AA

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Dodds and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for 1972.

The Vital Statistics of the district continue to be generally satisfactory.

I would again thank Members of the Council for their suggestions and help. I am indebted to Mr. Dixon for his help during the year and for his preparation of Section II.

Your obedient Servant,

A. S. M. WILSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health (part-time):

A. S. M. WILSON, M.F.C.M., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

K. H. PICKWORTH, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.G.P.

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor:

EDGAR DIXON, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

SECTION I

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (Acreage)	559
Population (Registrar General's Estimated Figure Mid-Year 1972)	5,360
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,464.4032
Rateable Value as at 1.4.72	£160,754.00

Main Local Industries

Glaxo Laboratories Ltd. employed 1,343 people during 1972, and are concerned with the manufacture of antibiotics and vitamins by fermentation processes, together with the handling of antibiotics in bulk filling, packing and despatch thereof. This is the main industry and employment in the district.

Other industrial establishments in the district are concerned with engineering and ironfounding; agricultural and dairy engineering; the manufacture of gloves; making-up of leather goods and egg and poultry packing.

Climatic Conditions

Table Showing Annual Rainfall in Inches
Compiled from Figures Received from the Bowes Museum

	<u>1970</u> <u>Inches</u>	<u>1971</u> <u>Inches</u>	<u>1972</u> <u>Inches</u>
January	4.21	1.68	4.75
February	4.40	1.23	2.74
March	1.42	2.63	2.58
April	4.76	3.81	1.52
May	0.94	1.57	3.62
June	1.48	2.42	2.37
July	3.25	2.20	1.91
August	2.04	3.72	0.87
September	0.88	0.45	0.96
October	1.97	2.03	0.55
November	4.59	2.30	2.99
December	3.00	1.17	2.97
	<u>32.94</u>	<u>25.21</u>	<u>27.83</u>

Average Rainfall

5 years 1968 - 1972	27.83	1972
- 30.21	25.21	1971
	32.94	1970
	31.75	1969
	33.34	1968

	Males			Females		
	Legit.	Illegit.	Total	Legit.	Illegit.	Total
Live Births	36	2	38	36	-	36
Still Births	1	-	1	-	-	-
Deaths of Infants						
Under 1 year of age	2	-	2	-	-	-
Under 4 weeks of age	1	-	1	-	-	-
Under 1 week of age	1	-	1	-	-	-

	Male	Female	Total
A. All causes of death	32	39	71
B. Main Causes of Death			
1. Cardio-Vascular:-			
(a) Ischaemic Heart Disease	7	9	16
(b) Cerebrovascular Disease	5	11	16
(c) Other Forms of Heart Disease	2	1	3
(d) Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	-	1
(e) Hypertensive Disease	1	-	1
	—	—	—
	16	21	37
	—	—	—
2. Cancer (Malignant Neoplasms)	4	10	14
	—	—	—
3. Chest Diseases:-			
(a) Influenza	1	2	3
(b) Pneumonia	3	2	5
(c) Bronchitis and Emphysema	2	1	3
(d) Asthma	1	-	1
	—	—	—
	7	5	12
	—	—	—

The main causes of death in the district during the year were diseases of the heart and blood vessels (37 deaths), cancer (14 deaths) and diseases of the respiratory system (12 deaths).

Live-birth Rate - 13.8 per 1,000 home population.

Adjusted Rate - 16.7 per 1,000 home population.

Corresponding Rate for England and Wales 14.8 per 1,000 home population.

Still Birth Rate - 13.00 per 1,000 total live and still births.

Corresponding Rate for England and Wales 12.00 per 1,000 total live and still births.

Death Rate - 13.2 per 1,000 home population.

Adjusted Rate - 11.00 per 1,000 home population.

Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 12.1 per 1,000 home population.

Deaths of Infants

Under one year of age - 27 per 1,000 live-births.

Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 17 per 1,000 live-births.

Perinatal Mortality - 27 per 1,000 live and still births.

Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 22 per 1,000 live and still births.

Year	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Population	5290	5420	5410	5360	5410	5560	5560	5570	5310	5360
Births	96	115	101	80	84	100	90	79	78	74

The above table shows live-births per year since 1963 together with the estimated populations for each year.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS IMMUNISATION;
POLIOMYELITIS, SMALLPOX, MEASLES AND RUBELLA VACCINATION

Protection against poliomyelitis, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, smallpox, measles and rubella is available from family doctors and child welfare centres.

Polio protection is available up to the age of 40 and to certain priority groups over that age. The vaccine may be had either by injection or by mouth.

During 1972, the immunisation of school entrants was continued. This work was carried out within the schools on a sessional basis and is reflected in the general immunisation statistics for the area.

The following records have been received for work carried out in the area during 1972.

TOTAL UNDER 16 YEARS

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Boosters</u>
Poliomyelitis	159	50
Diphtheria	117	55
Whooping Cough	79	-
Tetanus	142	100
Smallpox	5	5
Measles	66	-
Rubella	34	-

A fair proportion of young children are still wholly unprotected on entry to school despite the steady flow of information, exhortation and encouragement channelled to their homes by the County Council from birth onwards.

B.C.G. Vaccination

During 1972 protection against tuberculosis continued to be offered in accordance with County Council policy to all school children aged 11 years and over.

A skin test is carried out first to see whether or not a child has developed a degree of natural immunity. Where this indicates the need for protection, vaccination is then carried out.

Of the 244 children tested during 1972, 181 were vaccinated.

Children who are absent, or not vaccinated for such medical reasons as intercurrent infection, skin conditions, etc. are usually taken up at subsequent sessions.

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASESNotifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during recent years

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Scarlet Fever	2	28	3	1	2
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	164	2	94	3	44
Whooping Cough	27	9	2	3	3
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	13	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-
Meningitis	1	1	-	1	-
Infective Jaundice	-	4	1	-	1

Tuberculosis

There was one case of tuberculosis notified during the year that of a male aged 45.

No death occurred which was attributed to this cause.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

A. Hospitals

The Richardson-Bede Hospital complex has 82 beds which is a most valuable asset to the community.

B. Laboratories

Public Health Laboratories are available at Northallerton and Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Facilities are also provided at Bishop Auckland General Hospital, Pathological Department for urgent bacteriological examinations.

C. County Council Services

In his quarterly reports to the Area Health Sub-Committee the County Medical Officer includes most of the following information about Health Services in the area.

1. Ambulance Facilities

Barnard Castle urban and rural districts are served by two ambulance depots, three ambulances and six driver-attendants.

2. Home Nursing and Midwifery Services

The District Nurse Midwives practice domiciliary midwifery and carry out general home nursing as required and are now aligned to general medical practices instead of working widely throughout the District.

3. Health Visiting

The number of Health Visitors in the area varied during 1972 as they were aligned to general practices rather than strictly geographically distributed. Their routine duties include visits to mothers and children, tuberculosis patients, the mentally subnormal, school children and the aged.

4. Domestic Help Service

Assistance is provided in the home when necessary on account of old age, home confinement or illness. During 1972, help was provided at 18 homes by 15 home helps.

5. Child Welfare Centres

A Baby Clinic and Antenatal Clinic are provided by the family doctors in the town, with a health visitor and district nurses in attendance.

SECTION II

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supply

Water is impounded in reservoirs in the upper reaches of the Tees Valley, treated at Lartington and distributed in the urban area by the Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board. The water is satisfactory in quantity and quality and gravitates to all parts of the town.

Closet Accommodation

With the exception of three premises which have pail privies all properties have water closets. The three premises with pail closets are in such a position that difficulties are experienced in discharging to the Council's sewers.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The Council supply polythene bin liners for dustbins provided by the owners. These are removed together with trade refuse once a week with a limited number twice a week, in two 20 cubic yard S & D Pakamatic refuse vehicles. Larger articles are removed on request in a Karrier 10 cubic yard side loader. During the year two 5 cubic yard skips with lids were sited on land in the area for the reception of garden and other household refuse and these are emptied weekly or more often as necessary. The provision of these skips has reduced very considerably the amount of rubbish dumped in hedge backs and it is proposed in 1973 to provide another two skips.

All the above rubbish is deposited by agreement with the Barnard Castle Rural District Council on their refuse tip at Cragg Wood, Cockfield, which is nine miles from the centre of the town.

Improvement Grants - Housing Acts, 1949 - 1969

	<u>Discretionary</u>	<u>Standard</u>	<u>Total</u>
(a) Applications submitted to the Local Authority in 1972.	14	10	24
(b) Applications rejected by the Local Authority.	-	-	-
(c) Applications approved since inception of scheme.	178	92	270
(d) Grants paid since inception of scheme.	155	83	238

New Dwellings during 1972

Fourteen dwellings built by private enterprise were completed and occupied during the year.

Housing Units Lost During the Year

Three units of accommodation were lost to other uses during the year. Cambridge House, a Durham County Council hostel, was demolished and rebuilding of Stoneleigh proceeded during the year.

One house in a clearance area was vacant but still standing at the end of the year.

Housing by the Council

The 18 flats in Dunelm Court and 34 houses and bungalows at Kalafat, Crook Lane, were in the process of erection and some were nearing completion in December, 1972.

Work on the roads and sewers on the Goods and Passenger Station land, purchased from the British Railways, were sufficiently advanced for the industrial part to be sold and 26 sites were sold on the remaining land to private individuals to build bungalows. Two of the bungalows being erected on the site were completed and occupied during 1972, the remainder were in various stages of planning and building.

Due to the removal of the coal depot the roads and sewers were laid to the remainder of the land and planning approval for a further eight bungalow sites was obtained. Planning approval for the remainder of the land is being negotiated.

Four Council houses were sold to the tenants at full District Valuer's valuation. The number of applicants on the Council's waiting list was 193, compared with 164 at the end of 1971. Broken down, the list is as follows:

APPLICATIONS FOR AGED PERSONS' DWELLINGS

from applicants living within the Urban District,

2 person accommodation	9
1 "	13

from applicants living outside the Urban District,

2 person accommodation	10
1 "	30
	—
	62
	—

APPLICATIONS FOR HOUSES

from applicants living within the Urban District 53

from applicants living outside the area but working within the area 11

applications from outside the area 67

—

131

—

Total 193

—

The fifty-two units of accommodation in Dunelm Square and Kalafat which will be available for letting during 1973 should appreciably reduce the list of applications for houses from persons living or working in the area. It would appear that the provision of additional aged persons' dwellings might contribute to the availability of dwellings for families in the town.

Provision of Dwellings by the Local Authority

	Owners	Situation	No. of Bedrooms				
			1	2	3	4	Total
Pre 1939	Barnard Castle U.D.C.	Dunelm Court	-	1	-	-	1
	North Eastern) Housing) Assoc. Ltd.)	Dunelm Court	10	-	-	-	10
		Dawson Road	-	22	14	8	44
	TOTAL PRE 1939		10	23	14	8	55
Post 1939	Barnard Castle U.D.C.	Victoria Road	-	-	8	-	8
	North Eastern) Housing) Assoc. Ltd.)	Zetland Road Estate	-	20	28	6	54
		Montalbo Road Estate	8	-	82	12	102
		Zetland Road Ex. Estate	6	20	13	-	39
		Green Lane Estate	8	76	80	12	176
		The Bank Redevelopment	-	1	5	1	7
		Thorngate "	4	2	5	-	11
		Bridgegate "	-	22	32	-	54
		Galgate "	3	1	-	-	4
		Churchill Road	-	-	87	-	87
		Dunelm Court Flatlets	34	1	-	-	35
	TOTAL POST 1939		63	143	340	31	577
	TOTAL HOUSES		73	166	354	39	632

Factories and Workshops

One notification was received from the Factory Inspector during the year and this was remedied.

Four outworkers, finishing wearing apparel, are employed in the district. The premises used are satisfactory.

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963

An inspection of the following premises registered under the Act was made during the year.

19 Offices,
45 Retail Shops
1 Warehouse
8 Catering Establishments

These premises were found to be fairly satisfactory and no accidents were reported during the year.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 269

A temporary dwelling on Prospect Place Caravan Site was once again licenced for twelve months. All necessary services are available adjacent to the site.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

Prospect Place Caravan Site, Staindrop Road, Barnard Castle

This is a residential site for 17 caravans with store, W.C., water supply, foul drainage to the Council's sewer and hard standings to each site, tarmacadam road, communal wash room and fire point is situated on the north east entrance to the town.

Red Well Inn, Harmire Road, Barnard Castle

A licence was issued to the site owner in respect of one caravan which is permanently occupied.

The remainder of the site is a holiday caravan site for 35 caravans for use between 1st March and 31st October.

Communal toilets are provided, but these have not been adequately maintained during the year.

Rodent Control

Twenty-four premises were treated for infestation by rodents. 18 were infested with rats and 6 with mice.

Slaughterhouses

The following four slaughterhouses in the Urban area were licenced for a further 12 months.

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. Vere Road, Barnard Castle. | Mr. W. H. Foster. |
| 2. Rear of 54, Galgate, Barnard Castle. | W. Peat Ltd. |
| 3. Birch Road, Barnard Castle. | Mr. F. A. Youngs. |
| 4. Rear of 46, The Bank, Barnard Castle. | Mr. R. C. Jackson. |

Animals being slaughtered are examined daily with the exception of Sunday. In the absence of the Inspector, through sickness or holidays, one hundred per cent inspection is maintained with assistance from an Inspector from the Barnard Castle Rural District Council.

Animals Slaughtered

The following table shows the animals killed, inspected and found unfit for human consumption at the Slaughterhouses during the year ending 31st December, 1972.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	689	2	3	2002	1029
Number inspected	689	2	3	2002	1029
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	4	-
Part of carcase or organ condemned	53	-	1	40	19.3
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	7.69	-	33.3	2.20	18.75
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Part of carcase or organ condemned	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Part of carcase or organ condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalized and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Milk Supplies

There are no milk producers in the Urban District.

The County Health Inspector is responsible for sampling raw milk, but as far as I am aware no raw milk is sold in the Urban District.

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There is no egg pasteurisation plant in the area.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

The following is a list of food premises in the district:-

Grocers	33
Butchers	8
Fish Shops	6
Confectioners	15
Cafes	8
Licenced Premises	20
	—
	90
	==

Washing facilities for personal use are provided at all premises and washing facilities for equipment is provided where necessary.

Poultry Inspection

Two poultry processing plants are operating in the town. Only occasional visits are made to these premises.

During 1972 the larger plant killed approximately 600,000 hens, 500 chickens and 2,000 turkeys. The smaller plant killed 400 hens and 200 chickens.

Dear Father,

I am sending you a copy of the "Daily Worker" of March 21, 1944. It is a very good article by a man named John T. McEvilly. He is a member of the Communist Party of America. He has written a series of articles on the Chinese situation. This is the third one. I think it is a very good article.

Yours truly,

John T. McEvilly

APPENDIX I

Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life
During 1972 in the Urban District of Barnard Castle

Cause of Death	Sex	Total	Under	4 Weeks	Age in Years								
		all Ages	4 Weeks	& Under 1 Year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75+
Malignant Neoplasm	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Buccal Cavity, etc.	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
- Stomach	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
- Intestine	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Lung, Bronchus	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Breast	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Anaemias	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hypertensive Disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5
	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5
Other Forms of Heart Disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
	F	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Influenza	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Pneumonia	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Asthma	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions	M	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	32	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	4	10	12
	F	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	14	20

